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But there was no necessity to use strong language. They had a strong case, and it was only injuring it to do so.

Mr. RICHARD LEE said he was not at Birmingham, but he had formed an opinion of what had occurred from the report in the *Anthropological Review*, and he wanted to take that opportunity of saying that he thought that Society and the Ethnological Society were retarding the progress of the objects they had in view by wasting time in little disagreements between themselves. Therefore, if in the report there was any language that was strong, and calculated to irritate, it would be to the credit of the Society that the words should be withdrawn. He regretted that even on that evening so much time had been wasted. The best plan to adopt would be to let the Ethnological Society follow their course and for this Society to follow theirs, and that it would be much better to avoid contact with the Ethnological Society as far as possible. The observations that had been made by Mr. Crawford on the members of this Society were not only offensive, they were discreditable to Mr. Crawford himself as a man of science; but it was beneath their dignity to take notice of such remarks. For his own part, he had not the smallest doubt of the result, and that the success of this Society would be far beyond anything that the Ethnological Society could ever hope for; and they might safely be let alone.

Mr. CARTER BLAKE was glad to have heard the remarks of the gentlemen who had expressed their opinions on his report. He fully agreed with what Mr. Lee had said, and for his own part he must say that no one could be more ready than himself to withdraw the words objected to. He withdrew them in every way. The proceedings at Birmingham formed quite an era in the history of science, and, as the reporter of that society, he could not fail to take notice of them.

The PRESIDENT then put to the vote the question, "That the special thanks of the society be given to the Warden, the Dean of the Faculty, and the other authorities of Queen's College, Birmingham, for the liberal manner in which the College Hall, Lecture-rooms, and Library were placed at the disposal of the Society during the recent meeting of the British Association," and it was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT, having resigned the chair to Dr. Seemann, proceeded to read the following paper, which will be printed at length in the second volume of *Memoirs*—"On the Archaic Anthropology of the Zetland Isles." By Dr. James Hunt, F.S.A., Pres. A.S.L. The author of the paper gave an account of a recent visit made by him to the Zetland Islands, with the object of investigating the antiquarian relics reported to exist in those islands. He first visited Unst, the most northerly of the group; but found the chief objects of interest had been previously explored. He proceeded to examine the other islands, and described the results of an exploration of several large tumuli, which were chiefly composed of burnt stones. In one of these a stone hammer was found, of a unique pattern. In the interior of most of these tumuli there were found ruins of some building. In one case the structure was nearly complete, and resembled what is known as the "beehive" house. In another tumulus there was found a large upright stone

with a hole in the centre, the first instance, the author thought, of such a stone being found within a tumulus. He gave a detailed account of the discovery of an underground structure, from which were dug a large number of rough stone implements, resembling in form and size those which have been found in Pressigny-le-Grand, in France, and the uses of which have occasioned considerable discussion. These implements (which are not of flint, as are those of Pressigny-le-Grand) were exhibited to the Society, and the author brought forward the various theories current as to the objects of these and similar stone implements, at the same time stating his opinion that any definite conclusion as to the purposes or age of these objects could not be formed from the present data, and considered the subject as one of great importance, and deserving of further investigation by the Society. The author of the paper mentioned by name the various gentlemen to whom he was indebted for acts of courtesy whilst prosecuting his investigations, and mentioned especially the liberal donation of the Earl of Zetland, to assist in carrying out the researches which have been made under the auspices of the Anthropological Society.

MR. RALPH TATE, who accompanied the President to the Zetland Islands, then submitted a report of the results of his explorations. This report will be printed at length in the *Memoirs*:—"Report on the Zetland Anthropological Exploration." By Ralph Tate, Esq., F.G.S., F.A.S.L. The author described the excavations conducted under his superintendence at the Mücke Heog, Isle of Unst, Shetland, which afforded remains of many human individuals, urns formed of steatite, and bones of domestic animals, birds, and fish, with numerous shells. He described some skeletons found by him in the Island of Uyea, where two adult skeletons were lying on a bed of fishbones.

DR. SEEMANN proposed the thanks of the meeting to Dr. Hunt and Mr. Tate for their valuable and interesting reports of their explorations, which were unanimously accorded.

MR. MACKENZIE remarked, with respect to the tumulus, that he thought it would be better to have something like a builder's estimate of the quantity of materials it contained, than such a general description as had been given.

DR. HUNT stated that the tumulus at Safester was eighty feet in diameter, and fifteen feet high.

MR. RALPH TATE said it might be thought extraordinary that he, who accompanied Dr. Hunt, should require any explanations; but, as he had confined his explorations to the most northern of the Zetland Isles, he had not seen the tumulus, and he wished to know whether the whole mass was formed of burnt stones.

DR. HUNT replied that the whole mass of small stones in the tumulus was so composed.

MR. RALPH TATE said he was induced to ask the question, because he suspected that the appearance of having been burnt might be accounted for by the nature of the work. In one instance he was acquainted with, similar stones, consisting of blocks of mica, were covered naturally

with a black incrustation, from which it might be supposed they had been burnt.

Mr. D. W. NASH mentioned a tumulus on the Cotswold hills, that was formed of burnt stones. A wall about three feet in height had evidently been burnt. It was a fact on which he would not offer an opinion.

Dr. SEEMANN, referring to the collection of stone implements on the table, said that one of them looked like the stones used by the Eskimos for cleaning skins. With regard to the large round stone with a hole in it, such stones were said to have been used by some savage tribes when any compact was entered into, the parties shaking hands through the hole. He had read accounts of such a proceeding in cases of marriages.

Mr. NASH observed that a stone of that kind existed in Abury. In plighting troth, the man and woman joined hands through the hole.

Dr. HUNT said the chief interest in the stone consisted in finding it in a tumulus. Stones of that kind were not very uncommon; but he believed the one he had discovered was the first ever found in connection with a tumulus. With respect to the burnt stones, on which Mr. Tate had commented, he must observe, that no one who had examined the tumulus had any doubt that the stones had been burnt. The observation of Mr. Nash was interesting, as it showed that the finding of such stones in a tumulus was not unique, but that the whole of the tumulus should have been formed of burnt stones he believed to be unprecedented. With respect to the cairns found by Mr. Tate in the gully of a sand bank, he did not think there was sufficient evidence of their great antiquity. Mr. Tate had endeavoured to make out that they could be traced back for three hundred years, at least. His (Dr. Hunt's) opinion was, that the written documents referred to, in proof of that degree of antiquity, were worth very little. There had been no roads in the island until within the last few years; and the whole district was a perfect wilderness, and had but recently been allotted. It did not require a long period of time to cover such places as those, where the cairns were formed with sand, and to uncover them again. The documents referred to did not prove anything; and he believed the heaps of stones to be nothing more than the burial-places of shipwrecked mariners. The bodies of natives were not found buried so close to the water. He was inclined to doubt that they were three hundred years old.

Mr. R. TATE replied to the remarks of Dr. Hunt, and contended that, from the well known accumulation of sand on the island, from the geological evidence of great oscillation of level, and the formation of peat-mosses covering trees that do not grow there at the present time, it was clear that the cairns must be of great antiquity. Had the bodies interred been those of Norwegian mariners, they would not have been buried with so much care, and placed exactly north and south. The skull itself might afford some evidence of the period of the interment. The question could not be answered directly; but he hoped that the meeting would not attach want of antiquity to the bones until the subject had been further investigated.

On the motion of Dr. SEEMANN, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously given to the Earl of Zetland, and to those who had assisted Dr. Hunt and Mr. Tate in their explorations.

The PRESIDENT, having resumed the chair, announced that the Council had found that the finances of the Society, in consequence principally of the heavy expenses incurred in the publication of their works, were not in so satisfactory a state as at the last anniversary meeting; and he begged to state that, unless they elected a considerable number of Fellows before the next anniversary, there would not be that favourable balance to present as on the last occasion. He felt assured it was only necessary to mention that fact, to induce every one to exert himself to increase their numbers.

The meeting then adjourned.

DECEMBER 5TH, 1865.

JAMES HUNT, ESQ., PH.D., F.S.A., PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The names of the following newly-elected members were announced:—James Bain, Esq., 3, Park-terrace, Glasgow; Henry Jules Blanc, Esq., M.D. Paris, M.R.C.S.E., Abyssinia; Sydney L. Blanchard, Esq., Arundel Club, W.C.; S. Phillips Day, Esq., M.A., 1, New Millman-street, Guildford-street, W.C.; Frederick Green, Esq., 17, Stratford-place, W.; Captain H. G. Gridley, Esq., M.P., 26, Wilton-crescent, W.; Thomas Moreton Johnson, Esq., Mostyn-cottage, Merton, Surrey; William Lawson, Esq., Brayton, Cumberland; the Rev. Frederick George Lee, D.C.L., F.S.A. Lond. and Scot., 19, Coleshill-street, Eaton-square; Joseph Stevens, Esq., Belford-lodge, Clapham-road; Thomas Wade, Esq., H.M. Secretary of Legation, Peking.

The following presents were announced, and thanks were voted to the respective donors:—

Psychoneurology, by R. T. Stothard, Esq. (the author). Merlin the Enchanter and Merlin the Bard, by D. W. Nash, Esq. (the author). Cast of head of native Australian (H. Brookes, Esq., F.A.S.L.) Eichthal; De l'usage pratique de la langue Grecque; Maltebrun, Anniversary address to the Paris Geographical Society; Mortillet, Les Terramares de Reggiana (by Dr. Hunt). Belzoni, Travels in Egypt; Bowring, Siam (by S. Edwin Collingwood, Esq., F.A.S.L.)

Dr. BEDDOE read a paper "On the Evidence of Phenomena in the West of England to the Permanence of Anthropological Types," of which the following is an abstract. The entire paper will be inserted in the second volume of the Society's Memoirs:—

"The paper was based mainly on certain tables, shewing the birth-places, and the colours of the hair and eyes, in upwards of 4,000 persons, whom he had had opportunities of observing in the course of his hospital practice at Bristol. These tables shewed a great prevalence of dark hair and eyes among the Welsh, and of dark hair, often coupled